

portion, defining an inner lumen, and an outer tube portion, defining gas lumen, a distal portion of said inner tube portion extending beyond a distal end of the outer tube portion and being connected to a distal end of the balloon membrane and to the tip, the gas lumen insert comprising a removable elongated body at least partially disposed within the gas lumen, wherein the catheter tube is at least partially made from polyurethane and the gas lumen insert is at least partially made from polyether block amide.

Add new claim 33 which is the combination of old claim 15 in conjunction with old claim 4

B7 A percutaneously insertable intra-aortic balloon catheter comprising an outer tube, an inner tube, a balloon membrane, a tip, and a gas lumen insert, said inner tube being disposed within the outer tube, a distal portion of said inner tube extending beyond a distal end of the outer tube and being connected to a distal end of the balloon membrane and the tip, the gas lumen insert comprising a removable elongate body at least partially disposed within the gas lumen, wherein the catheter tube is at least partially made from polyurethane and the gas lumen insert is at least partially made from polyether block amide.

16. (amended) A percutaneously insertable intra-aortic balloon catheter comprising an outer tube, an inner tube, a balloon membrane, a tip, and a gas lumen insert, said inner tube being disposed within the outer tube, a distal portion of said inner tube extending beyond a distal end of the outer tube and being connected to a distal end of the balloon membrane and the tip, the gas lumen insert comprising a removable elongate body at least partially disposed within the gas lumen, wherein the outer tube is at least partially made from polyurethane and the gas lumen insert is at least partially made from polyether block amide.

REMARKS

In response to the Examiner's rejection of the claims 1 – 6, 17, 18 and 23, Applicant has cancelled said claims. In response to the Examiner's objection to claims 7 – 12, 15 and 16, Applicants have amended said claim so they are not dependant upon rejected claims.

With the above in mind, Applicants, hereby, respectfully request re-examination and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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